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SOURCE . Newspapers as indicated.

REVIEW UNEMPLOYMENT IN NORTH AND EAST CHINA;
CALL SITUATION SERIOUS

The serious unemployment situation in China is still one of the major problems. Besides giving regular jobs to unemployed workers, the responsible authorities have been using the following relief methods: issuance of emergency foodstuffs and funds, migration of unemployed to Northeast and Northwest; implementation of work-relief projects, production-for-self-salvation projects, return-to-rural-areas-for-production movement, labor mutual-aid movement; and organization of the unemployed into producers' cooperatives and the training-for-new-job classes.

The present unemployment picture in North China and East China is partially presented by the subsequent newspaper articles:

NORTH CHINA

926 PERSONS SECURE JOBS -- Tientsin Chin-pu Jih-pao, 6 Jul 50

Tientsin -- During June 1950, the employment office of the Tientsin Labor Bureau placed 926 unemployed, from 1,757 applicants, in such jobs as gathering eggs, making shoes and processing bristles, washing sheep wool, etc.

CH'EN REPORTS 2-MONTH ACTIVITIES -- Tientsin Chin-pu Jih-pao, 24 Aug 50

Tientsin -- Ch'en Jung, deputy chairman of the Tientsin Unemployed Workers Relief Committee, gave the following summary of the 2-month unemployment relief activities in Tientsin at the plenary cadres meeting, held on 19 August 1950:

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Up to 3 August, 20,358 unemployed workers have registered in Tientsin. There are still 15,000 unemployed workers who have not registered. Of the registrants, 4,500 persons are now working in the work-relief projects, and 5,527 others are awaiting assignment to similar projects.

In future unemployment relief work, it is necessary to: (1) strengthen the working organization; each cadre should be assigned to do single job; each ch'u should have a working team responsible for its own area; each working agency should have a definite number of cadres selected from among the unemployed and from the relevant government; (2) emphasis should be placed on organizing more new-job training classes to develop skilled workers; and (3) registration of unemployed intellectuals, former employees of the reactionary government, and other wage earners should be made periodically.

16,000 PEIPING UNEMPLOYED FIND WORK -- Peiping Kung-jen Jih-pao, 14 Jul 50

Peiping -- According to incomplete data, some 16,000 former unemployed workers in Peiping are now working in new jobs or participating in various production activities. Some 7,198 unemployed workers were sent to work in the Northeast and Northwest, 1,800 were organized into producers' cooperatives, 6,865 were sent home to rural areas to help production, and the Peiping Public Works Bureau is daily using 4,000 in the municipal work-relief projects.

More unemployed workers are expected to be placed in jobs since conditions in private and public industries have been improving gradually. Since the liberation and up to June 1950, the number of workers in publicly and privately owned factories in Peiping has increased by 18,377 and 12,033, respectively.

CLERKS, INTELLECTUALS FIND SOME JOBS -- Peiping Kuang-ming Jih-pao, 12 Aug 50

Peiping -- The hardest hit among the unemployed in Peiping are the store clerks and intellectuals. Many store clerks have found jobs in rural areas as a result of the continual expansion of the city-hsiang trades. As for intellectuals, they have been hired to teach in leisure-hour classes, the North China People's Revolutionary University, the Military and Political College, etc. However, there are still 10,197 unemployed in Peiping seeking employment.

EAST CHINA

UNIONS HELP 359,100 UNEMPLOYED AND DEPENDENTS -- Peiping Kung-jen Jih-pao, 15 Jul 50

Labor unions in various localities of East China are carrying on unemployment relief work in accordance with the ACFL (All-China Federation of Labor) directive of 20 April 1950. There are eight municipal unemployment relief agencies in East China. To aid 359,100 unemployed and dependents, the people's governments or administrative offices in Shanghai, Nanking, North Kiangsu, South Kiangsu, Chekiang, Suchow, Tsingtao, Pang-fou, Wu-hu, North Anhwei, and South Anhwei, have appropriated 1,567,000 catties of relief food-stuffs and 1,590,000,000 yuan of relief funds.

The Shanghai Public Works Bureau has drafted engineering projects which will absorb between 30,000 to 40,000 unemployed in Shanghai. Some 8,000 in Suchow have been organized to work in 11 construction projects. Hangchow organized 4,100 unemployed to repair a section of the Fukien Highway. North Kiangsu has mobilized 14,000 for the I Ho flood-control projects, to repair

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canals, and to construct storehouses. Nanking has completed preparation to consume 20,000 unemployed in the municipal construction projects. The Tsinan Unemployed Workers Relief Committee formed a work-relief project corps on 19 June.

The production-for-self-salvation projects are being carried out by maintaining close liaison between medium or small cities and rural areas. For example, a transport union in Suchow organized 1,300 unemployed workers to take farm equipment to rural areas and to bring farm products and coal into the city. A transport union in Yang-chou has organized its unemployed members to seed 160 mou of farmland. In North Kiangsu, the Kao-yu-ch'eng Bath House Union organized 100 or so of its members into three teams to repair dikes and to transport goods to and from rural areas. Other localities have organized their unemployed into producers' cooperatives to make bricks, sew and wash cloth, weave mats, and make straw hats.

According to available data, there are now 11,100 unemployed workers participating in the production-for-self-salvation projects. The above figure does not include the unemployed in North Anhwei and Fukien. Data from 16 cities and ten hsiens show that some 100,000 were sent home to rural areas to participate in production.

The Shanghai Unemployed Workers Relief Committee has organized many training-for-new-job classes in the city's schools during the summer months while students are on vacation. Many vacationing teachers and students were recruited to train the more than 20,000 unemployed workers by the end of July 1950. Similar training classes were also started in Nanking and Hangchow.

Other incomplete data show that some 17,900 persons in East China were placed in jobs. Many unemployed technicians were assigned to work in Northeast, and many store clerks received jobs in trading or tax-collecting agencies.

93,310 UNEMPLOYED IN NORTH KIANGSU -- Yang-chou Su-pei Jih-pao, 25 Jul 50

Incomplete data show that there have been 93,310 unemployed or partially unemployed workers in North Kiangsu since the liberation. Of the 93,310 persons, 42,302 are fully unemployed and 51,008 are partially unemployed. The former is 18.6 percent, and the latter is 22.4 percent of the total 227,530 workers in North Kiangsu. The number of unemployed and partially unemployed does not include unemployed seamen, cultural, and educational workers. Unemployment is greatest among transport, handicraft, and store workers. In contrast, there are only 2,321 unemployed among industrial workers.

The unemployment situation began to worsen from the beginning of spring 1950. Relief measures were hurriedly implemented in rural areas. The labor mutual-aid movement, which was started in most towns and hamlets, calls for the pooling of tools and animals and the using of planned division of labor. One million catties of emergency foodstuffs were appropriated by the North Kiangsu Administrative Office to facilitate the production-for-self-salvation projects. As a result, some 20,962 persons are participating in this movement at present.

As for the work-relief projects, plans have been set up to organize 14,169 unemployed and partially unemployed to work in the control of the I Ho, repair canals, and construct storehouses. The 20 April directive of the ACFL helped in the collection of 299,131,550 yuan of relief funds, and 12,906 catties of foodstuff.

As for the return-to-rural-area-movement, 14,951 persons have joined it. Besides the above projects, 466 persons were placed in governmental and trading company jobs, 1,133 persons received transfers in jobs, and 20 persons joined the training-for-new-job classes. All of the above measures have helped solve the livelihood problem of most of the 93,311 unemployed or partially employed.

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During the workers' relief activities some defects were noticed which need to be corrected. Leaders did not recognize the seriousness of the unemployment relief problem and neglected to make thorough and effective plans. The relief foodstuffs were not issued at the right time. For example, one labor union in Nan-t'ung was so busy with its own activities that it neglected to distribute relief grain to help the unemployed in Ch'ung-ming Hsien.

AID 11,023 UNEMPLOYED IN SOUTH KIANGSU -- Wu-hsi Su-nan Jih-pao, 19 Aug 50

Already, 11,023 unemployed in Sung-chiang Ch'u in South Kiangsu have been helped by governments and unions of all levels to engage in transport work, fishing, rural production, tax collection work, etc. Of the 1,598 still needing relief, 402 received emergency relief to tide them over serious difficulties.

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